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Newsletter Number 27 15 October 2010



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

- .. To Cherie Parker and her team of parents for work in the run up to Trivia Night.
- .. To those parents who have assisted their children to get home gardens up and running.
- .. To those parents supporting/transporting our interschool tennis team.

People of the week

- .. Jeanette Rummery organised, relabelled and covered all the book boxes in the junior office - much of it was done in her own time. Thank you Jeanette.
- .. James has worked so hard and carefully on his speech and we are all very proud of him.
- .. Charlie for achieving "Most Dedicated Player" for Kamo Rugby JBN Magpies.
- .. Joshua received "Most Improved Player" for Kamo 6th Grade Soccer team.
- .. A former student Caleb has made it into the Whangarei Under 15 Rugby Rep team.
- .. Congratulations to our Northland Cross Country Runners, they all did really well - Natasha 7th, Seth 8th, Jemimah 16th, William 9th & Ethan 11th!

Good Luck

- .. To our tennis team which will represent our school at an interschool tennis tournament next Wednesday.

Virtue - DILIGENCE

Congratulations to the following children who were selected by their classes as "Shining Examples" of the Diligence. We hope your parents feel very proud of your efforts.

Rm 1	Dannielle	Rm 2	Maia
Rm 3	Tahi-Ora	Rm 3	Ewan
Rm 4	Alyssa	Rm 5	Toby
Rm 5	Natasha	Rm 6	Tane
Rm 6	Natasha	Rm 7	Jessica-Lee
Rm 8	Kayla	Rm 9	Tyrone
Rm 9	Emily	Rm 10	William
Rm 10	Matthew	Rm 11	Tait
Rm 12	Paul	Rm 12	Brady



Michele Blagrove, Sales Consultant
Mobile 027 6100 303, After Hours 09 4335 735

New Virtue - RESPONSIBILITY

We are excited to announce that our virtue for the first half of this term is RESPONSIBILITY. You all know the drill ..

- .. please read over the support material and discuss it with your child(ren)
- .. re-visit this material from time to time
- .. explain how confidence helped you to meet some challenge
- .. help your child(ren) find some opportunities to practise this virtue
- .. advise us of any successes so we can celebrate these through the newsletter

Term Calendar

Additional dates will be advised as these come to hand.

20 October	Interschool tennis tournament
22 October	Calf Club Day
8 November	Lunch time athletics tournament starts
9 November	Zone athletics at Poroti School
9 November	Mobile Ear Clinic outside Bush Road Medical Centre (8:30 to 3:30)
18 / 19 November	Tech Quest (more to follow)
30 November	Year 7 and 8 Interschool Athletics
30 Nov - 3 Dec	Year 4 camp at Marsden Bay
2-3 December	Year 3 camp at Marsden Bay
6 December	Year 7 and 8 abseiling at Whangarei Falls
10 December	Reports issued to parents
13 December	Team Athletics Day
14 December	Prize Giving
15 December	Year 8 Fun Day
16 December	Final day of school year

Senior abseiling days

Please note the change of dates above - now 16 November and 6 December. A notice will be sent home this week advising further details.

School Sun Hat

A reminder that these are compulsory in terms 1 and 4. Children will be required to wear the school approved (wide brimmed) bucket hat each day please. Additional hats can be purchased from the school office at a cost of \$7.50 each.

Art Awards

You may recall that two art scholarships were presented last year based on a portfolio of artworks submitted for judging. If you think your child might be interested please contact the school office for further information. More to follow.

Lunchtime Athletics Competitions

We will shortly begin lunchtime track and field activities. Children will get the opportunity to compete against school standards as well as to prepare for upcoming zone and interschool events. Please encourage your children to show an interest in these events. If you are able to assist with these (even for one lunchtime a week) please give Kevin a call next week.

Calf Club - Indoor Exhibits

Please accept this cordial invitation to attend our Annual School Calf Club Day on Friday 22 October - getting under way shortly after 9:00am. Please extend this invitation to grandparents, other extended family, and neighbours. Bring along some change for sausages and drinks and remember to please ..

- .. Drop a plate to the school hall on arrival for our shared lunch
- .. Make sure all exhibits (and place cards) remain in rooms until 2:00pm at the earliest
- .. Advise your child's teacher if they will be travelling home with you at the end of the day.

.. Note that, due to greatly different loadings, buses will depart school much earlier than usual. *Ringrose Stockfoods* are sponsoring the ribbons & rosettes again this year. Please consider them when purchasing calf meal. ***Omak Meats & New Zealand Home Loans*** are our main calf club sponsors this year.

Please see the separate newsletter sent home today with full details on the proceedings and requirements for next Friday.

If you can set aside time to assist at the end of the day with the dismantling of tents and lamb pens our very small team of dedicated regulars would really appreciate this.

Children with Calves and Lambs

.. may go home at mid-day on Thursday (the day before calf Club) to work with their calves and lambs at the discretion of parents. If you would like to take this opportunity please advise the office on Monday.

Calf Club Indoor exhibits

All items for your child's class will be made at school unless stated below..

Room	To be made at home..	Please send next week.. (please refer your child's class notice for further details)
1	Nil	Nil
2	Nil	Nil
3	Nil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flowers, leaves (small) for Vaseline - Saucer (small) - Fruit & vegetables for creation. Toothpicks supplied
4	Nil	Nil
5	Nil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment for making scene, eg farm, garden, race track - Shallow box for scene eg shoebox lid
6	Nil	Nil
7 and 8	Nil	Nil
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make & cut cake at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring icing, decorations & cake board to school on Thursday morning ready to put together - 5 Camp photo's (6"x4") by Tuesday 19th
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make sweets at home and bring to school on Wednesday 20 October 	Nil
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fudge or Chocolate centrepiece - Rangoli Art 	Nil
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make fudge at home and bring to school on Thursday 21 October 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vegetables for creation

New Junior Block

All going well the junior block will be available for viewing on Calf Club day, along with some junior exhibits.

Spelling Bee

.. Underway soon. Finals to take place during term 4 Monday assemblies (even weeks). Parents are welcome to drop by. Good luck to all participants. Parents might like to encourage their child's involvement.

Term Headlice Inspection

If you are able to assist with this term's inspection please phone Donna Cates in the office. In the meantime parents are asked to check children's hair weekly and to take prompt action in the event of infestation.

Home Gardens

Hopefully by now seedlings are in (or nearly in) gardens, composts are up and running, and pest control measures are in place. Remember ..

- .. that gardens need to be looking their best for judging in late November.
- .. to use the garden resource booklet sent home with children last term if needing ideas
- .. to add a little here and there to garden diaries
- .. to give Kevin a call (or drop by) with any questions.

We met today to share ideas and encourage each other. We have a very enthusiastic team of gardeners and things seem to be progressing well. In a week or two we will meet to swap seedlings and so you might like to give thoughts to what your child might bring to swap.

Out of zone enrolments

Ballot date is 20 October. Applicants will be advised (all going well) by the end of that week.

MARZ DVD's

... Due to popular demand, we have extended the deadline to Wednesday 20 October. Please see separate order form for details.

Planning absences during term time

.. please remember that an exemption from school must be sought for all absences anticipated during term weeks. This can be sought simply by emailing Kevin (principal@matarau.school.nz) stating dates and reasons for anticipated absence. You will receive a response within a day or two.

Matarau School Fundraising Raffle 2010

Thank you to all those who have returned their money and ticket butts. All money and butts were due on Wednesday 13th October. Many are still outstanding. Please return to the office as soon as possible. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Calendars 2011

Order forms have now been sent home. Thanks to those of you who have ordered. Artwork available for viewing at the office and in classrooms on Calf Club day. If you did not receive an order form, these are available at the Office.

Friday Lunches

Due to Calf Club next Friday, lunch orders will begin Week 3. Attached is an order form. Please fill out and return to the office with payment. If you are able to help with bagging orders at 9am please contact Helen in the office or Michelle on 433 5061.

Northfuels - Fuel for Schools Nomination Form

Fuel for Schools is an innovative new sponsorship programme for all Primary, Intermediate and Secondary Schools throughout New Zealand.

The Fuel for Schools programme can help fund the ever increasing costs of running your school. If you are a Northfuels account holder (new or existing) you simply need to complete the attached nomination form & for every 2 litres of bulk fuel delivered our school receives 1 cent.

So please complete the nomination form & return to school - we will fax off & we can get the ball rolling.

Community Notices

Kamo Tennis Club Inc - Jnrs Tues 3.30-5.30pm beginning 19 October, Club Nights Tues & Thurs 5.30pm, already commenced, Ladies Day Thur 9am-11.30am.

Bream Bay Fun Run & Walk - Sunday 14th November @ 9.00am. For registration forms and more info visit www.wps.school.nz

A&P Show Children's Pet Competition - Sunday 5th December. Entry forms available at the office.

Rural Home Based Childcare - 20 hrs free available for 3-5 yr olds. Pickup/Drop off options available, arranged on an individual basis. Enquire now to reserve your space. Phone Sharlene 4337944.

Tool Box Courses for Parents - For children age 6-12 yrs. Begins Wed 20th Oct 7.30pm in Kamo. Enquiries phone Jennie Clarke 4353890.

Research findings on what really makes a difference to learning

Recent meta-research (research summarising a wide body of previous research in the field of education) is confirming that certain things make a bigger difference to learning outcomes than was previously believed. Each week we will share something that makes a bigger difference than was believed, and something that makes a lesser difference than previously believed. So .. moving down the list ..

	<u>Last week</u>	<u>This week</u>
Bigger difference than was believed	Quality of instruction	Direct instruction
Lesser difference than was believed	Behavioural objectives	School finances

Safety of children waiting for the school bus

Towards the end of last term we used the newsletter to promote various aspects of road safety, and especially the safety of children walking to / waiting for buses. Our recommendation is that parents of 5 and 6 year olds wait with them at the bus stop, or pass them into the hands of a reliable older sibling. We are very keen for all children to wear high visibility vests when waiting for the bus and request that parents ensure children have these on before leaving home in the morning. We will do our best to ensure they have these on at the end of the day. If you would like a vest, and have not received one, please contact Helen and we will see what we can do. So parents .. in summary .. please ..

.. ensure children have their vests on each morning (especially junior children)

.. check that they take the safest possible route to their pick up point (back from the road as much as possible)

.. revise the road safety message from time to time.

.. let us know early of any concerns and tell us where we can help.

Forthcoming Camps

The Board would like to remind parents that the school has a "no alcohol" policy for all school camps. It is important that all parents volunteering to assist with any outdoor education experience realise that the safety and wellbeing of children needs to remain the first and foremost concern of all parents at all times. Parents will be expected to adhere to this policy. The Board is extremely grateful for the contribution that parents make to these experiences, without which, these camps would not proceed.

Final thought

As we approach Calf Club Day it might be a good idea to reflect on why this day is so important to us. This day puts a stake in the ground that we are a rural school and proud of that. While the Whangarei City boundary seems to creep ever closer, it remains important that we hold tenaciously to our rural character. We think rural schools are special. They offer things you simply cannot replicate in urban schools. They create special New Zealanders who go on to achieve great things. Let's all celebrate this next week and bang that stake a little deeper .. we are rural to stay. Look forward to seeing you all next week.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella

PRINCIPAL

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